

SOUTH CAROLINA EDUCATION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
Minutes of the Meeting
May 15, 2003
2:00PM
Room 433, Blatt Building

Members Present: Mr. Staton, Mr. Martin, Mrs. Cooper, Mr. Daniel, Dr. Gummerson, Mrs. Hoag, Mr. Lightsey, Mrs. Marlowe, Representative Walker, and Mr. Wilson

Members Excused: Mr. Hall (military duty), Senators Fair, Giese and Leatherman (Senate in session)

I. Welcome and Introductions

Mr. Staton welcomed members and guests to the meeting. He announced that the Senate was in session, debating the General Appropriations Act, and that representatives of the Senate could not attend.

II. Approval of the Minutes

The minutes of the March 20th meeting were approved as distributed.

III. Subcommittee Reports

A. Academic Standards and Assessments: The subcommittee had no report.

B. EIA and Improvement Mechanisms: Mr. Daniel reported on behalf of the Subcommittee. He indicated that the Senate had not concluded its work on the General Appropriations bill; therefore, Fiscal Year 2004 funding for education is not final. He outlined several differences between the House-passed bill and the Senate Finance Committee proposal before the Senate.

C. Parental Involvement: Mrs. Marlowe reported on behalf of the Subcommittee. She announced the Family Friendly Employer awards. Mrs. Hoag represented the EOC at the banquet and ceremony and indicated that the awards were well-received.

D. Public Awareness: On behalf of the Subcommittee Mr. Martin introduced individuals involved in the pilot project in McCormick County. Jon Abercrombie and Sarah Campbell spoke on behalf of the Study Circle Resource Center; Dr. Lloyd Hunter spoke on behalf of the McCormick County Schools; and Jim Palmer spoke on behalf of the McCormick community. Extensions of the project are to be discussed by the Subcommittee at its 4:00 p.m. meeting.

E. Administration: Mr. Staton asked if there were amendments to the Retreat agenda.

IV. Remarks from a Key Constituency

Mrs. Jan McCarthy, President of the SCEA and Denise Hopkins, Director of Research, presented an examination of school funding in South Carolina conducted by the NEA/SCEA. The model identified values and incorporated them to project the funds needed to achieve equity across all districts. EOC members asked a number of questions and discussed aspects of the report.

V. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m.